First Congregational
United Church of Christ

111 S. Wallace Blvd. Ypsilanti, MI 48197
(Mailing Address: P.O. Box 980413 Ypsilanti, MI 48198)
www.ypsiucc.org

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

February 20, 2022
10:00 am

“Love Your Enemies”
Seventh Sunday after Epiphany

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, You are welcome here!

WORSHIP ON ZOOM -- Zoom opens at 9:30 am Sunday morning.

https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7643282234

Meeting ID: 764 328 2234
Passcode: Ypsi1882
To join by phone, dial the number, 1-312-626-6799

- Welcome to Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC's Hybrid Worship Service
- Hymns are included in the worship bulletin. A separate hymnal is not needed.
- If you are joining worship for the first-time on Zoom, please add your name and email to the chat so the Zoomie Greeter can introduce you.
- Thank you for choosing to worship with us today!

OPEN AND AFFIRMING COVENANT OF
First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti celebrates everyone, including people of all ages, races, cultures, sexual orientations, gender identifies and expressions, family configurations, economic circumstances, physical, cognitive or emotional abilities, education or spiritual or religious traditions. All are welcome to participate fully in the life, leadership, ministry, and missions of this church as we seek to grow together in a safe, nurturing community of faith. We strive to demonstrate in all ways that "NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE OR WHERE YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!"

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

PRELUDE *Start Zoom Recoding to Cloud **ERIC BANITT**

"How Deep the (Father's) Love for Us, arr by Mark Hayes

RINGING THE BELL **MARTY KLEINO**

WELCOME **PASTOR LIZ**

- A warm welcome to all, including first-time visitors.
- As stated in our Open and Affirming Covenant (previous page), all persons are welcome in this community of faith.

ANNOUNCEMENTS **ELLIE GUSMAN**

- **COMMUNITY SHARING OF OTHER ANNOUNCMENTS:**
  - The Worship Leader will introduce Roomie Greeter, **Patty Sherwood**, and Zoomie greeter, **Jenn Zibbell**.
  - The Greeters will introduce folks participating in worship.
  - Please share your announcements so everyone can learn what is happening in our beloved ministry community.
  - Please submit written announcements to Margaret Harner, Worship Coordinator, margaretsharner@gmail.com, by midnight on Tuesday.

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

GATHERING HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing is optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Go, Make a Difference"
199 SING

CALL TO WORSHIP **ELLIE GUSMAN**

Leader: Come near to one another and to our God. Be still before the one who fulfills our hearts' desire.

People: This is a time for meeting and greeting. This is the hour for quieting life's stresses and worries.

Leader: Wait patiently for God will be revealed to us. God is our refuge in whom we trust.

People: We believe God is here and will be known by us. Our faith nourishes us as we rest in God's care.

Leader: We are here to receive life in all abundance. God is providing for us and has a purpose for us.

People: God raises us up and sends us forth. Surely God will help us wherever we go.

HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing is optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Your Ways Are Not Our Own"
170 NCH

LISTENING FOR GOD

FIRST READING **Genesis 45:3-11, 15**
Psalm 37:1-11 **ELLIE GUSMAN**

SECOND READING **Luke 6:27-38** **PASTOR LIZ**

HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing is optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**
"Spirit of Jesus, If I Love My Neighbor"
590 NCH

MORNING MESSAGE **"Love Your Enemies"** **PASTOR LIZ**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE *Pause Zoom recording
*Zoomies: Please turn on your microphone
*Roomies: Please speak into the hand-held microphone

You are invited to share your joys and petitions for prayer.
Please unmute your microphone to share a joy or make a prayer of petition.
At the end of each joy or petition, please say **"God in your mercy"**
We will respond (with microphones muted) **"Hear our prayers"**

PASTORAL PRAYER *Restart Zoom recording **PASTOR LIZ**

DISCIPLES' PRAYER (Unison) *Microphone muted **PASTOR LIZ**

**To the God who knows and embraces all of creation in love and compassion,
whose presence is themselves, and whose name is beyond our expressions:
This world is yours; this world is ours.
Help us as we bear the responsibility of its care.
Help us create and rebuild in a way that is life breathing and renewable.
Help us create goodness in this world.
Comfort those who are weary; feed those who are hungry.
Protect those who struggle to protect themselves.
We cannot claim perfection, but daily strive to be better.
Just as we have been forgiven, help us forgive others when they hurt us
and those around us.
Even more, help us encourage change in the world for the better.
While we may be tempted to respond in anger and fear, empower us toward care
and understanding.
May all creation one day witness the awesome power and beauty of you and your
will. Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY INVITATION **PASTOR LIZ**

Our electronic giving platform is Tithe.ly: Link to Tithe.ly

Checks can be mailed to:
First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413, Ypsilanti, MI 48198

Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERTORY **Nimrod variation** by Edward Elgar **ERIC BANITT**

DOXOLOGY *Microphone muted *Standing is optional" **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Jesus, Jesus, Oh What a Wonderful Child" 136 NCH

Jesus, Jesus, oh, what a wonderful child.
Jesus, Jesus, so holy meek and mild.
New life, new hope the Child will bring.
Listen to the angels sing,
"Glory, glory, glory," let the heavens ring!

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *Unison with Microphone muted **ELLIE GUSMAN**

Receive our joy, O God, along with our gifts.
We reach out with this offering to do good in and through our church.
May any who have harmed others be helped.
Heal us of unjust anger, jealousy, and strife.
Through our shared life in this community of faith, create in us the image of one who dwells in heaven.
Let us share with the whole world the blessings we receive from your hand.
Amen.

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

CLOSING HYMN *Microphone muted *Standing is optional **TIFFANIE WALDRON**

"Savior God Above"
602 NCH

BENEDICTION (RESPONSIVE) **PASTOR LIZ**

Leader: Love your enemies and do good. Lend to others, expecting nothing in return.

People: As we want people to treat us, we commit ourselves to treat them.

Leader: Judge not and you will not be judged. Condemn not and you will not be condemned.

People: We want to forgive as God forgives us. We would be merciful as God is merciful.

Leader: God is raising you up to new life. Be still before God and wait patiently each day.

People: God is our refuge and our salvation. We recommit our ways to God.

Leader: Amen.

People: Amen.

POSTLUDE

*Please remain seated **ERIC BANITT**

Peachtree Rag by Scott Joplin

PASSING THE PEACE **FRIENDS GATHERED**

- Share a greeting with others as we transition to our casual **Friendship Time.**

Hybrid Sunday Worship 10:00 am

Rev. Liz Larrivee, Pastor & Spiritual Director
Tiffanie Waldron, Music Director
Eric Banitt, Accompanist

Jenn Zibbell, Seminary Intern
Ellie Gusman, Worship Leader
Donna Eyster, Roomie Greeter
Jenn Zibbell, Zoomie Greeter
Marty Kleino, User & Bell Ringer
Wayne Burling, Technical Coordinator
Covid Health Advisor, Donna Eyster

YPSILANTI FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
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ATTRIBUTIONS FOR TODAY'S BULLETIN

- **Cover Art:** Nacho Diaz, villainsneedlove.com
- **Call to Worship and Prayer of Dedication:** Adapted from *Gathered by Love: Worship Resources for Year C* by Lavon Bayler, 2001.
- **Disciples Prayer:** Jenn Zibbell
- **Benediction:** Adapted from *Gathered by Love: Worship Resources for Year C* by Lavon Bayler, 2001.
- **Hymn Profiles:** *The New Century Hymnal Companion.* Pilgrim Press 1999.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYBRID WORSHIP RETURNS!!! THIS SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 20, 2022.
Some of us will be in person in the worship space and others will be on Zoom, but we will still all be one worshiping community of faith seekers.

Welcome Kiki Fugate! Kiki will be serving as our guest preacher next Sunday, February 27. Thank you, Kiki, for the generous sharing of your creativity, faith, and gifts. We look forward to hearing your message.

Worship next week: Tad Wysor, Worship Leader; Sue Schuon, Room Greeter; Jenn Zibbell, Zoom Greeter. Interested in serving as a Worship Leader or Greeter, contact Margaret Harner at margaretsharner@gmail.com

New Worship Team Meeting Time: Mondays from 11:30 am to noon on Zoom.
If you have a role in leading worship (Worship Leader, Greeter, Guest Preacher or are just someone interested in seeing how worship evolves) please join our lively conversation by attending the Monday meeting sharing your creativity, ideas and feedback. Thank you to Core Worship Team Members: Tiffanie Waldron, Music Director; Donna Eyster, Moderator; Margaret Harner, Liturgical Worship Coordinator; Wayne Burling, Technical Coordinator; and Jenn Zibbell, Seminary Intern for collaborating in worship planning.

MICHIGAN CONFERENCE OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
SPECIAL MEETING OFFICIAL NOTICE

Special Meeting of the Michigan Conference UCC, Saturday, March 19, 2022 at 10:00 a.m.

The Board of Directors of the Michigan Conference UCC sends this notice of a Special Conference Meeting for the election and call of our **Settled Conference Minister**.

The candidate identified by the Search Committee and affirmed by the Board of Directors will be announced prior to March 5th. There will be three “meet and greets” for Conference Members to meet the candidate.

Saturday, March 5, 2022 at 11:00 a.m.
Sunday, March 13, 2022 at 4:00 p.m.
Friday, March 18, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
All “meet and greets” and the Conference Special Meeting will be conducted via Zoom.

Rev. Dan Kidder-McQuown is featured in an interview with Pacific Health Ministry in Hawaii about his experience in its CPE (Clinical Pastoral Education) residency program. Learn more about Dan’s spiritual journey, call story to chaplaincy, and UCC ordination by clicking on this link: https://www.phmhawaii.org/connecting-with-daniel-kidder-mcquown/. Thank you, Dan, for sharing your story. You and your ministry are an inspiration!

Kroger Fundraiser: Have you registered your Kroger card? We get a small check every quarter for purchases made using your card when it’s registered. It’s a simple process. Go to Kroger.com and click “**Register**” and follow the prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the **Community Rewards** site and register with our church. Our number is **83262**, or you can find our name in the drop-down list. Any Questions: contact Barbara Garland at bargarland@yahoo.com or 734-662-5803.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH: Rev. Dr. James H. Cone, founder of Black Liberation Theology. Cone served as Assistant Professor of Religion at Adrian College from 1966–1969.

The Rev. James Cone is the founder of black liberation theology. In an interview with Terry Gross, Cone explains the movement, which has roots in 1960s civil-rights activism and draws inspiration from both the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and Malcolm X, as ***mainly a theology that sees God as concerned with the poor and the weak***. Cone also comments on controversial remarks made by the Rev. Jeremiah Wright, Barack Obama's former minister, a black liberation theology proponent and Pastor Emeritus of Trinity United Church of Christ in Chicago.

In a now-famous 2003 sermon, Wright charged that an ingrained, abiding racism in American society is at fault for many of the troubles African-Americans face, and he thundered, ***No, no, no, not God bless America! God damn America — that's in the Bible — for killing innocent people.***

Cone explains that at the core of black liberation theology is an effort — in a white-dominated society, in which black has been defined as evil — to make the gospel relevant to the life and struggles of American blacks, and to help black people learn to love themselves. It's an attempt, he says ***to teach people how to be both unapologetically black and Christian at the same time.***

To learn more about Dr. Cone and Black Liberation Theology, listen to this episode of Fresh Air from 2008, where Dr. Cone speaks extensively with Terry Gross.
From ***NPR,*** *Fresh Air, March 31, 2005.*

To learn more about Dr. Cone and Black Liberation Theology, listen to this 2008 episode of Fresh Air; Dr. Cone speaks extensively with Terry Gross, Black Liberation Theology, in its Founder's Words

Thank you to Carl Larrivee for sharing the information above.

Edward Kennedy "Duke" Ellington (1899-1974), *Savior God Above,* from Ellington's concert suite, *Black, Brown and Beige*

Duke Ellington was an innovative big-band leader, pianist, and composer. The original score of his 1943 jazz suite, *Black, Brown and Beige,* was in four moments and his aim was to extend jazz from the standard 3-minute segments. This suite was dedicated to telling the story of African Americans and the place of slavery and the church in their history.

Duke Ellington called his music "American Music" rather than jazz and liked to describe those who impressed him as "beyond category". He remains one of the most influential figures in jazz, if not in all American music, and is widely considered as one of the twentieth century's best known African American personalities. As both a composer and a band leader, Ellington's reputation has increased since his death, with thematic repackaging of his signature music often becoming best-sellers. Ellington received numerous awards for his music and was posthumously recognized with a special award citation from the Pulitzer Prize Board.

From http://dukeellington.com

Bulletin Update **Sunday, February 20, 2022**

Additional bulletin announcement.

A GoFundMe initiative has been setup by **Michigan Immigration Rights Center (MIRC), Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights (WICIR)** and **St. Mary's Catholic Student Parish** to support Santos. Her story and the GoFundMe link is below.

Hospitalized Mom Needs Our Help After Being Hit By Car in AAPS School Parking Lot

A single immigrant mother of two Ann Arbor Public Schools (AAPS) students is hospitalized with severe injuries as the result of a car accident while she was picking up her kindergarten child from elementary school. Due to some AAPS bus service routes being suspended recently, this mom was doing school pick-up herself. She was walking through the school parking lot when a car slammed into her. She was rushed to the hospital, spent time in the ICU and continues to require significant long-term medical intervention at the hospital. She has lost income that she uses to support her children. Her younger child also has special medical needs. An extended family member has come from out-of-state to care for her children during her hospital stay and gradual recovery, which is expected to last months.

We at **Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights (WICIR)** have known this immigrant mom for many years. She has lived in Washtenaw County for more than 15 years. Several years ago her husband, and father of her children, was detained by ICE while driving their youngest child to the hospital; he was subsequently deported. This left her alone to care for her children and support the entire family. WICIR has accompanied her over the years through many challenges. This recent turn of events, however, is an unforeseen disaster with both short- and long-term implications. It is anticipated that she will need long-term rehabilitation before she can return home to her children.

Michigan Immigrant Rights Center (MIRC), who is providing Santos with no-cost legal assistance, **St. Mary's Catholic Chapel,** and **WICIR** are reaching out to ask for not only financial support for her, but also asking that you will help us distributing this GoFundMe link and her story to others in your orbits as we strive to tell her story to our larger communities. As you can imagine, financial support is urgently needed, especially regarding housing, food for the children, and assistance for her family members who have come from far away and left work to help support her and the kids. Please give what you can to bring a little light and hope to this family in crisis.

For more information on the immigrant support groups above, please see WICIR www.wicir.org and MIRC www.michiganimmigrant.org websites

https://gofund.me/db785b57

OUR CHURCH'S MISSIONS

THE BEACON CENTER

The **Beacon Center** is the newest community social justice of the Ypsilanti First Congregational UCC. As a light to all persons, the Beacon Center's ministry will support the spiritual formation, creative expression, overall thriving and advocacy of at-risk students of all ages, including those affiliated with three primary local institutions of higher learning: Eastern Michigan University, Washtenaw Community College and University of Michigan. In the Spirit of the UCC moto, "That They All Shall Be One", Beacon Center serves as a uniting and unifying umbrella across our congregation serving persons sources through our three other community social justice ministry networks. Those ministries (each detailed below) include WICIR (Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights) serving the immigrant communities, MI-ONA (Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition) serving LGTBQ+ persons, and WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition) which brings together faith, labor and community organizations to address local issues.

The Beacon Center is committed to advocate for self-determination and education for all people, especially students living in poverty, persons of color experiencing racism, and other de-humanizing circumstances and conditions. Beacon Center's student demographics include persons of color, immigrants, minorities, LGTBQ+ folk, women, those with special needs, the economically disadvantaged, those facing housing insecurity, the financially challenged, and the working poor. For additional information on the Beacon Center, please contact Rev. Liz Larrivee at lizlarrivee@gmail.com

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY – WASHTENAW INTERFAITH COALITION FOR IMMIGRANT RIGHTS (WICIR)

Since 2008, **WICIR** has been working with, and in support of, immigrants in Washtenaw County facing challenges of many kinds. At our inception the primary need that brought us together was to support people facing enforcement action by ICE (Immigration and Customs Enforcement); most often detention, deportation, and removal. To date, WICIR has responded to 650 calls. Always in partnership with folks most affected, many actions and services have evolved as identified by our immigrant siblings, while always keeping focused on our original mission:

To provide culturally sensitive and supportive urgent response to those in Washtenaw County in immigration-related crises; impact local governmental policies to empower and protect immigrant community members; and work toward humane national immigration reform.

Our outreach has been significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Many in immigrant communities have experienced significant challenges as they struggle to pay rent, provide food for their families and other basic survival needs. To respond, WICIR, in partnership with Mexiquenses in Michigan (from St. Francis of Assisi Parish), has raised and distributed $200,000 relief funds to immigrants and their families. We have a waiting list of those still in need and will continue this effort as funds are available.

For information about what's happening with immigrant rights and **Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights**, or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Melanie Harner at melharner@gmail.com or through the WICIR website: https://wicir.org/. You can also find a link on the church website.

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION

The Coalition brings together Michigan Conference UCC churches that have declared themselves to be Open and Affirming of people of all gender identities. For information about what's happening with **Michigan Open & Affirming Coalition**, or if you are interested in joining, please contact Wayne Burling (734-377-0696). More information can be found on their website http://www.mi-ona.org or on Facebook (http://www.facebook.com/groups/onami). You can also find a link on the church website.

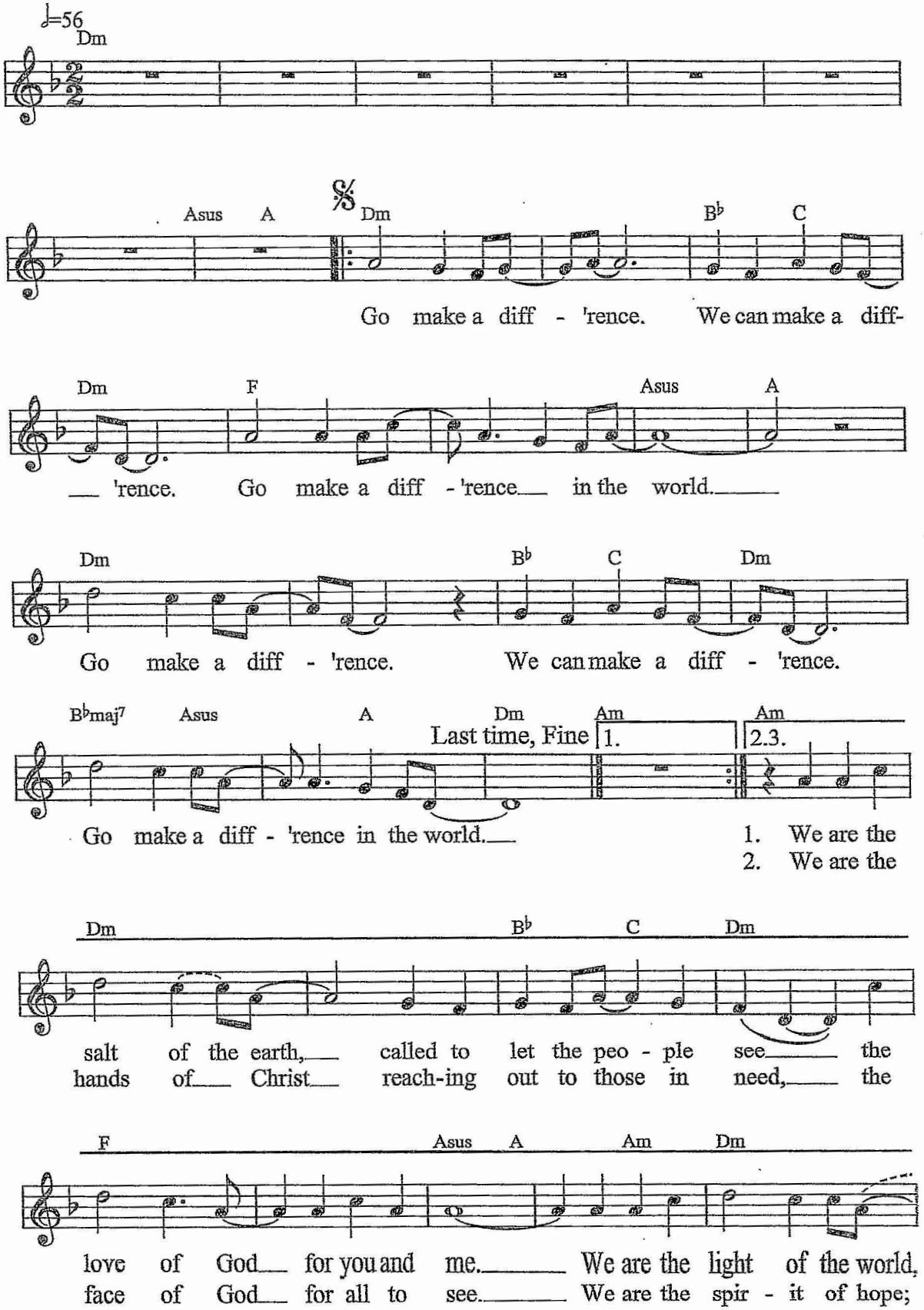
WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION

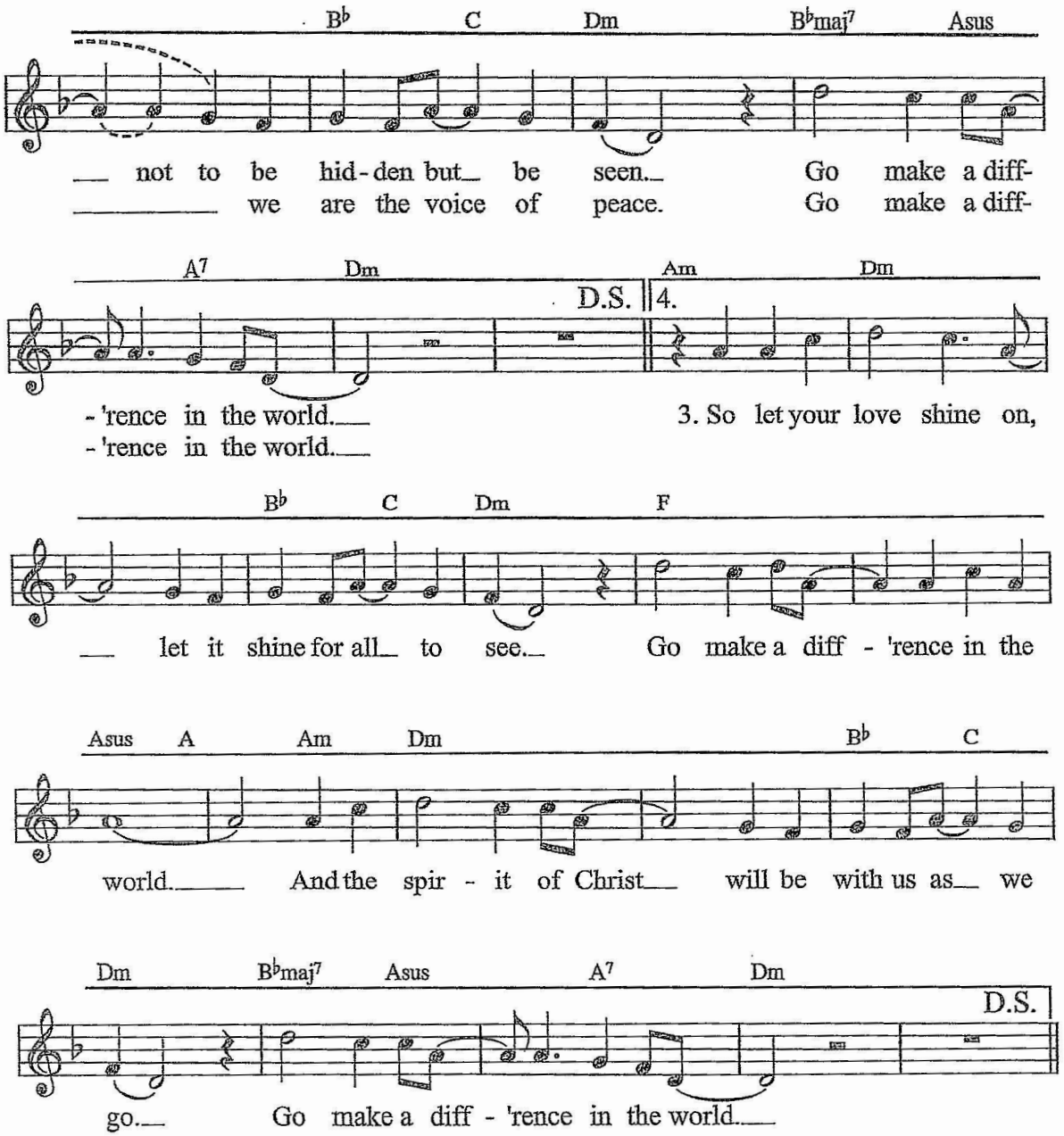
First Congregational is a founding institution of the local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition)**. In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. WeROC members are, at our core, focused on intentionally re-weaving the frayed fabric of community at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated. Especially in this time when so many are being hit by the health and economic crises, WeROC's focus on raising voices of those most affected is more important than ever (See COVID-19 Resources at www.werocmi.org) WeROC's Mission Statement is:

WeROC brings together faith, labor, community organizations, and individuals to build the healthy collective power needed to break down the systems that sustain injustice, racism, and economic inequality.

WeROC is affiliated with the Detroit Metro organization MOSES and the Gamliel National Network. Contact Tad Wysor at tadwysor@gmail.com or 734-883-3225.

This past election year showed us good things can happen when we're working together in the same direction. WeROC is moving rapidly **forward** to keep momentum going and find ways to continue to be more effective together in making our communities healthier and more vibrant places; improving the lives of *everyone* in big ways-- especially those who are most vulnerable and whose voice have seldom been heard.

199 Go, Make a Diff'rence

♩=56
Dm
Asus A
𝄋 Dm
B♭ C
Go make a diff - 'rence. We can make a diff-
Dm F
Asus A
— 'rence. Go make a diff - 'rence— in the world.—
Dm
B♭ C Dm
Go make a diff - 'rence. We can make a diff - 'rence.
B♭maj7 Asus A Dm Am Am
Last time, Fine 1. 2.3.
Go make a diff - 'rence in the world.—
1. We are the
2. We are the
Dm
B♭ C Dm
salt of the earth,— called to let the peo - ple see— the
hands of— Christ— reach-ing out to those in need,— the
F
Asus A Am Dm
love of God— for you and me.— We are the light of the world,
face of God— for all to see.— We are the spir - it of hope;


B♭ C Dm B♭maj7 Asus
not to be hid - den but be seen. Go make a diff-
we are the voice of peace. Go make a diff-
A7 Dm D.S. 4. Am Dm
- 'rence in the world. 3. So let your love shine on,
- 'rence in the world.
B♭ C Dm F
let it shine for all to see. Go make a diff - 'rence in the
Asus A Am Dm B♭ C
world. And the spir - it of Christ will be with us as we
Dm B♭maj7 Asus A7 Dm D.S.
go. Go make a diff - 'rence in the world.

Words and Music: Steve Angrisano and Tom Tomaszek, Copyright ©1997.
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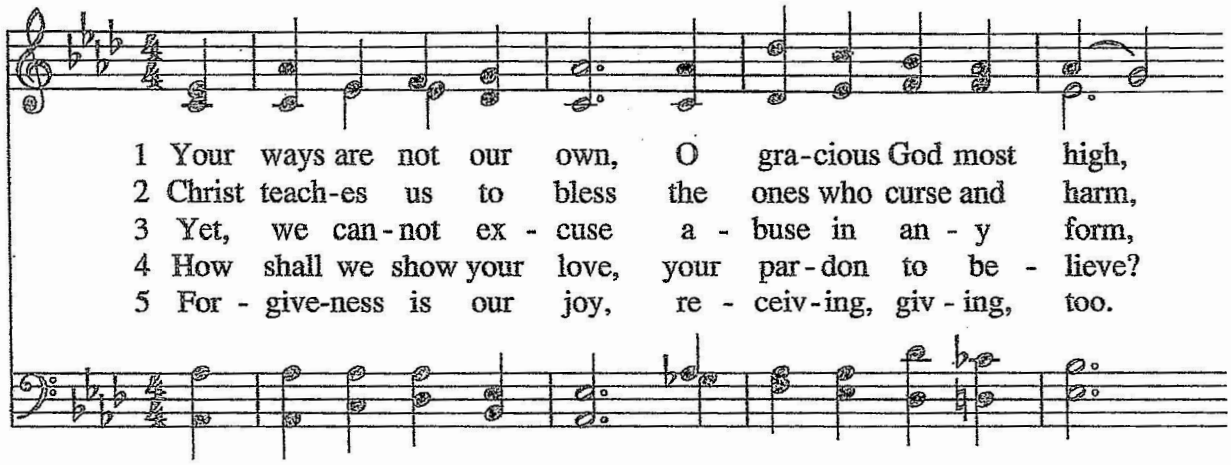
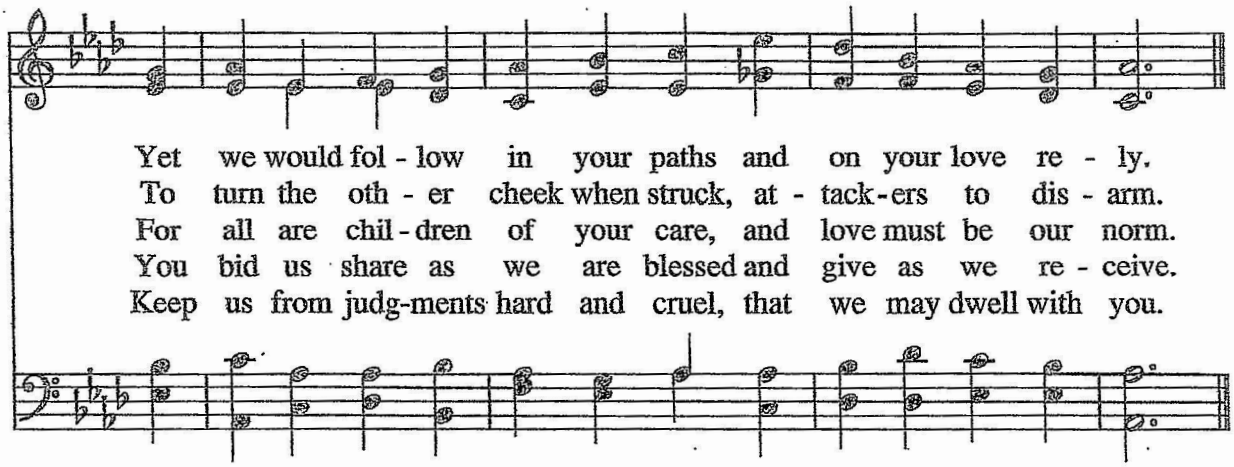
Your Ways Are Not Our Own 170

Lavon Bayler, 1988, rev. 1993 *Luke 6:17–38; Rom. 12:9–21*

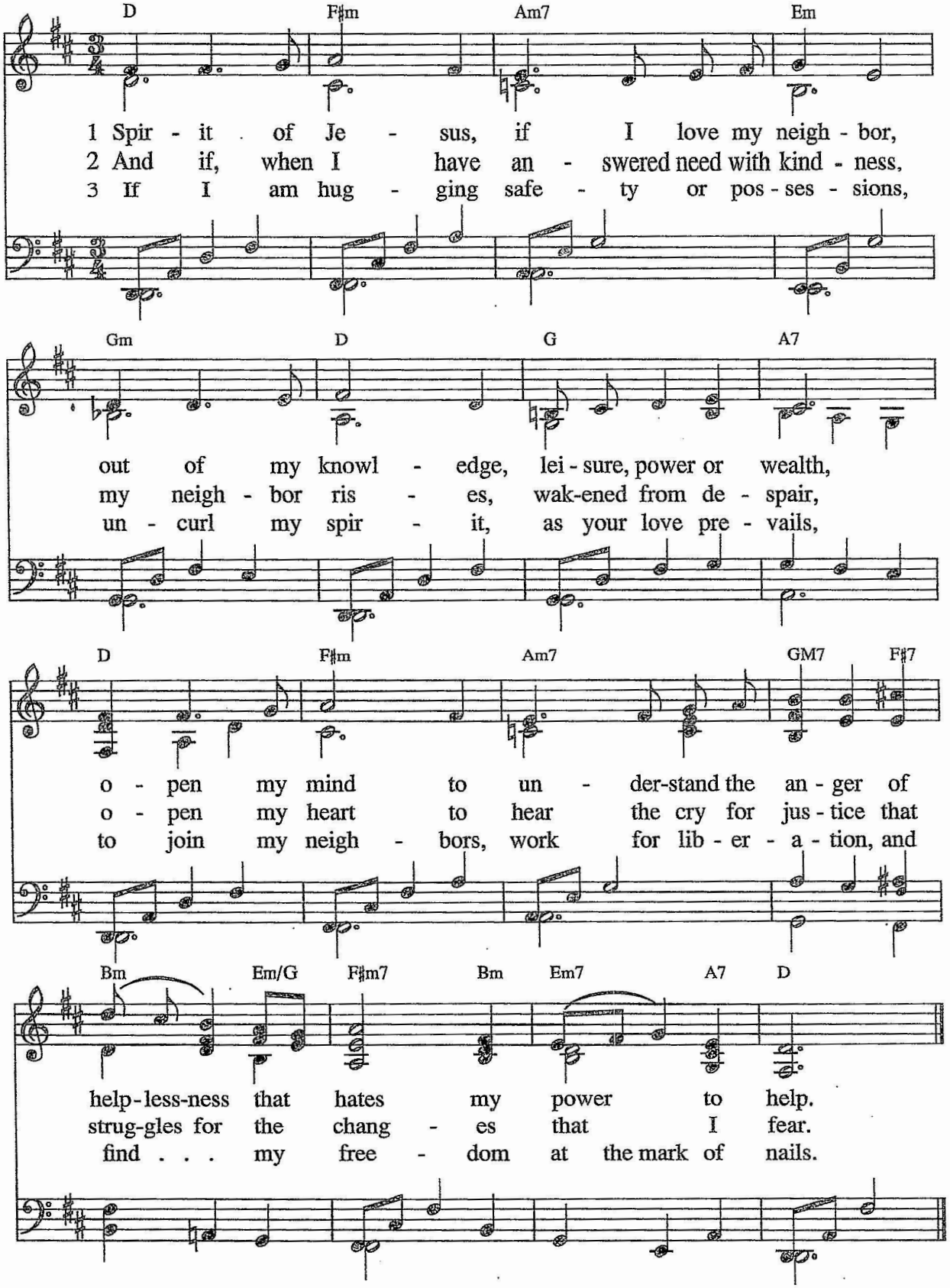

1 Your ways are not our own, O gra-cious God most high,
2 Christ teach-es us to bless the ones who curse and harm,
3 Yet, we can-not ex - cuse a - buse in an - y form,
4 How shall we show your love, your par-don to be - lieve?
5 For - give-ness is our joy, re - ceiv-ing, giv - ing, too.

Yet we would fol - low in your paths and on your love re - ly.
To turn the oth - er cheek when struck, at - tack-ers to dis - arm.
For all are chil-dren of your care, and love must be our norm.
You bid us share as we are blessed and give as we re - ceive.
Keep us from judg-ments hard and cruel, that we may dwell with you.

Lavon Bayler has served on the Illinois Conference staff of the United Church of Christ beginning in 1979. She maintains a faithful practice of writing worship materials as part of her daily spiritual discipline and has published several books of resources.

Tune: SCHUMANN S.M.
Cantica Laudis,
Lowell Mason and G. J. Webb, 1850

Spirit of Jesus, If I Love My Neighbor 590

Brian Wren, 1973; rev. 1994 *Rom. 13:8–14*

Unison

D F♯m Am7 Em
1 Spir - it of Je - sus, if I love my neigh - bor,
2 And if, when I have an - swered need with kind - ness,
3 If I am hug - ging safe - ty or pos - ses - sions,
Gm D G A7
out of my knowl - edge, lei - sure, power or wealth,
my neigh - bor ris - es, wak-ened from de - spair,
un - curl my spir - it, as your love pre - vails,
D F♯m Am7 GM7 F♯7
o - pen my mind to un - der-stand the an - ger of
o - pen my heart to hear the cry for jus - tice that
to join my neigh - bors, work for lib - er - a - tion, and
Bm Em/G F♯m7 Bm Em7 A7 D
help-less-ness that hates my power to help.
strug-gles for the chang - es that I fear.
find . . . my free - dom at the mark of nails.

Brian Wren gave this poem the subtitle "Pilgrimage of Confession" when it was first written, referring in part to the walk made by nine white South Africans in 1972 to draw other whites' attention to the injustice of migrant labor laws.

Tune: BENJAMIN 11.10.11.10.
Jonathan McNair, 1994

Words Copyright © 1978, rev. 1994 by Hope Publishing Company

602 Savior God Above

Ps. 108:5–6; Rom. 13:9–12; Rev. 1:4–6

Duke Ellington, 1943; alt.

Refrain

Sav - ior God a - bove, God al - might-y, God of love,

8va

Last time, end

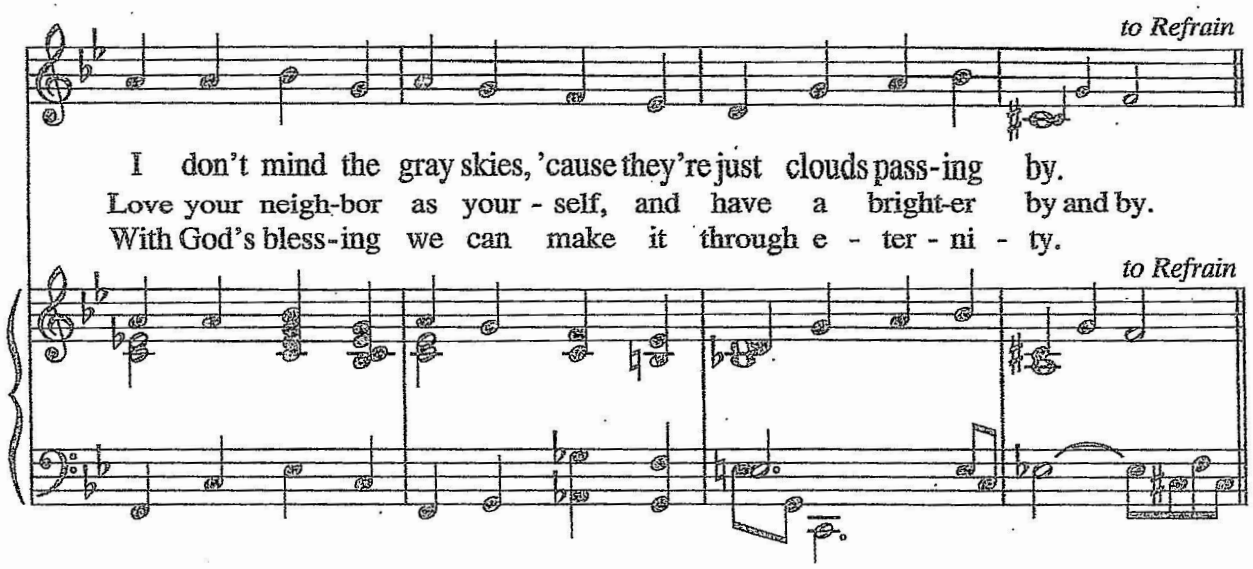
please look down and see my peo - ple through.

1 I be-lieve that God put sun and moon up in the sky.
2 Heav-en is a good-ness time, a bright-er light on high.
3 I be-lieve God is now, was then, and al-ways will be.

This song is part of the jazz suite Black, Brown and Beige *by African-American jazz classicist Duke Ellington. The suite had its premiere in Carnegie Hall in 1943 as a musical portrait of African-American social history.*

Tune: COME SUNDAY Irr. with refrain
Duke Ellington, 1943

602- 2/2 Savior God Above


to Refrain
I don't mind the gray skies, 'cause they're just clouds pass-ing by.
Love your neigh-bor as your - self, and have a bright-er by and by.
With God's bless-ing we can make it through e - ter - ni - ty.
to Refrain